REMARKS

Claims 1-16, 18-22, 24 and 26 are amended. Claims 17, 23 and 25 have been cancelled. Claims 27-28 are added.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Applicants submit the present Amendments and accompanying Application Data Sheet to delete the priority claim to U.S. Patent Application No. 10/725,844. Thus, this Amendment will eliminate the priority relationship between the present application and the application of which it was considered to be a continuation in-part.

RESPONSE TO CLAIM OBJECTION

Claim 13 was objected to as deleting the dependency from claim 1. Applicants have amended claim 13 as dependent from claim 12.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(A)

Claims 1-6, 8, 9, 11, 14-16, 18, 20, 22, and 24-26 were rejected over Manico (U.S. Patent 5,904,330) in view of Kendrick (U.S. Patent 6,175,300) and further in view of Tashiro (U.S. Patent 6,705,774).

Claim 1 recites a network video camera adapted for flush mounting comprising:

> a low profile camera housing comprising a shell and a lens, the shell and the lens defining an opening, **an end of the shell distal to the lens adapted for flush mounting in direct contact with a transparent medium**;
>
> an adjustable video sensor assembly within the low profile housing, wherein said video sensor assembly receives images through the lens and transmits the received images through a network interface; and

a mounting assembly attached to the low profile camera housing and **adapted for flush mounting the end of the shell distal to the lens in direct contact with the transparent medium**.

Claim 26 recites a network video camera mounting system comprising:

a low profile camera housing comprising:

a shell and a lens, the shell and the lens defining an opening, **an end of the shell distal to the lens adapted for flush mounting** in direct contact with a transparent medium;

an adjustable video sensor assembly within the low profile housing comprising an image sensor and the lens, wherein the adjustable video sensor assembly receives images through the lens;

a glare shield circumscribed by the end of the shell distal to the lens;

a network interface which transmits images from the video sensor assembly; and

a mounting assembly attached to the low profile camera housing and **adapted for flush mounting the glare shield in direct contact with the transparent medium**.

Thus, both claims 1 and 26 recite a low profile camera housing containing a shell and a lens defining an opening, the **end of the shell distal to the lens adapted for flush mounting in direct contact with a transparent medium**, and an adjustable video sensor assembly within the low profile housing that receives images through the lens. Claim 26 further recites a glare shield circumscribed by the end of the shell distal to the lens. The adjustable video sensor assembly transmits images through a network interface. A mounting assembly attached to the low profile camera housing is adapted for **flush mounting the end of the shell distal to the lens (glare shield in claim 26) in direct contact with the transparent medium**.

Although the Examiner used Manico, Kendrick and Tashiro in the rejection of claims 1 and 26 prior to amendment, Applicants address the Examiner's statements in the instant

response to expedite prosecution. Manico, Kendrick and Tashiro do not discuss the following elements: (1) a low profile camera housing containing a shell and a lens defining an opening, the **end of the shell distal to the lens adapted for flush mounting in direct contact with a transparent medium**; and (2) a mounting assembly attached to the low profile camera housing is adapted for **flush mounting the end of the shell distal to the lens (glare shield in claim 26) in direct contact with the transparent medium**.

Manico mentions a window camera mount for removably holding a one-time-use camera. (Manico, Abstract). At best, Manico mentions that the "flash exposure housing 12 includes an exposure chamber 44 and a flash chamber 46 having respective co-planar rectangular end openings 48 and 50 arranged to be positioned flush against an inner side 52 of a windowpane 54." (Manico, column 2, lines 11-17.) However, Manico does not disclose that the housing comprises a shell and a lens defining an opening, end of the shell distal to the lens adapted for flush mounting in direct contact with a transparent medium, and a mounting assembly attached to the low profile camera housing is adapted for flush mounting the end of the shell distal to the lens in direct contact with the transparent medium. Rather, the housing of Manico merely holds a drop-in camera; it does not contain a lens.

In addition, Manico does not describe flush mounting a glare shield in direct contact with the transparent medium. Rather, Manico specifically states that a "baffle 64 having a non-reflecting side 66 in the exposure chamber 44 and a reflecting side 68 in the flash chamber 46 is inclined at a suitable angle between the exposure and flash chambers to prevent direct flash illumination of the windowpane at the end opening 50 of the flash chamber, and a reflector 70 is inclined in the flash chamber at a suitable angle to redirect flash illumination around the end 72 of the baffle indirectly to the windowpane to prevent

reflection of the flash illumination from the windowpane." (Manico, column 2, lines 21-30.) Thus, Manico describes moving the baffle to prevent reflection of flash illumination; it does not describe flush mounting the glare shield or that the glare shield is circumscribed by the end of the shell distal to the lens.

Kendrick generally discusses a blind spot viewing system, but fails to mention the flush mounting elements of claims 1 and 26. (Kendrick, Abstract). The Examiner relied on Figures 4 and 10 of Kendrick as showing the flush mounting elements in the claims prior to amendment. In these Figures, as the Examiner recognized, the opening described as being mounted in Kendrick is lens 11. However, in the amended claims, the end of the shell distal to the lens is adapted for flush mounting in direct contact with a transparent medium.

In any event, Kendrick does not show that lens 11 is flush mounted. Kendrick states that "the servos 13, 14 may be mounting [sic] directly inside the passenger side rear turn signal and stop lamp assembly 6 to permit pivoting of the lens 11 of the video camera 10 in the horizontal plane." (Kendrick, col. 4, line 65 to col. 5, line 1.) Indeed, Kendrick emphasizes the advantages of being able to pivot the video camera. Kendrick does not show a low profile camera housing containing a shell and a **lens defining an opening, the end of the shell distal to the lens adapted for flush mounting** in direct contact with a transparent medium. In Kendrick, there is no "end of the shell distal to the lens adapted for flush mounting in direct contact with a transparent medium."

Claims 1 and 26 have been amended to clarify the structure of the video camera and the video camera mounting system. By flush mounting the opening/glare shield circumscribed by the chamber against a transparent medium, the camera can be located

inside a building while viewing the exterior, shielding the camera from the elements while allowing low-profile surveillance.

Tashiro mentions a camera apparatus configured to allow visual monitoring of camera movement. (Tashiro, Abstract, col. 1, lines 60-67.) The phrases "flush mounting" or "flush mounted" are not mentioned in Tashiro, and the concept of flush mounting is not discussed. As such, Tashiro does not remedy the deficiencies of Kendrick and Manico.

Claims 2-6, 8, 9, 11, 14-16, 18-22, 24 and 27 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1; claim 28 depends directly or indirectly from claim 26. All of these dependent claims also include recitations that further define the claimed invention. Based on their dependence on independent claim 1 and other patentable recitations, these dependent claims are also patentable.

For example, claim 15 recites the camera of claim 1, wherein the low profile housing further comprises a glare shield, the glare shield circumscribed by the end of the shell distal to the lens, and wherein the mounting assembly is adapted for flush mounting the glare shield in direct contact with the transparent medium. For the reasons above, the cited references do not describe flush mounting the glare shield, wherein the glare shield is circumscribed by the end of the shell distal to the lens.

In addition, claim 27 recites the camera of claim 1, wherein the network interface is adapted to transmit the received images over a power line network. The ability of the camera to use a power line network for image transmission allows for increased ease of setup and use. None of the cited references discuss using a power line network for image transmission.

Claim 7 was rejected over Manico and Kendrick in view of Tashiro and Novak (U.S. 2002/0141657). Claims 10, 12 and 13 were rejected over Manico and Kendrick in view of

Tashiro and Schnell (U.S. 6,768,868). Claim 19 was rejected Manico and Kendrick in view of Tashiro and Ward (U.S. 6,784,924 B2). Claim 21 was rejected Manico and Kendrick in view of Tashiro and Strandwitz (U.S. 2003/0112335).

These claims depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 1 and are patentable at least for the same reasons. These dependent claims contain further patentable recitations that also render them patentable.

At a minimum, these references fail to show a low profile camera housing containing a shell and a lens defining an opening, the **end of the shell distal to the lens (or glare shield) adapted for flush mounting in direct contact with a transparent medium** and a mounting system to carry out such flush mounting. Novack describes a system and method for a software steerable web camera. (Novack, Abstract). Schnell discusses a motion detector camera. (Schnell, Abstract). Ward discusses the generation and use of an automatic configuration file for transmitting images from an electronic still camera. (Ward, Abstract). Strandwitz discusses a wireless camera system that receives and transmits signals over a radio channel. (Strandwitz, Abstract). However, none of the cited references mentions a low profile camera housing containing a shell and a lens defining an opening, the **end of the shell distal to the lens (or glare shield) adapted for flush mounting in direct contact with a transparent medium**.

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are allowable over the cited art of record and request that the Examiner allow this case. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully Submitted,

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